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Attorney Docket No. TAM-1629DIV2

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner: A. Turner ✓

Art Unit: 1775 ✓

In re application of:
Leverenz ✓

Serial No.: 09/627,801 ✓

Filed: July 28, 2000 ✓

SUBSTRATE TREATMENT METHOD ✓

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222-2312
July 10, 2002

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the non-final Office Action dated April 10, 2002 ("Office Action") issued in the above-identified patent application ("subject application"), Applicants submit the following remarks and amendments to claim 50:

In the Claims

50. (Amended) An article, comprising

a composite portion comprising carbide particles in a binder;

an etched surface portion substantially free of eta phase, the etched

surface portion comprising unetched carbide particles and voids between the unetched carbide particles, wherein the voids extend to the composite portion; and

a wear resistant coating on the etched surface portion and disposed in the voids.